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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

ASHKhabAD PAPER REPORTS ON FINE-FIBER COTTON MEETING

GF060545 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 25 Aug 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Ashkhabad, 24 Aug (TURKMEN'INFORM)--An all-union scientific and technical meeting for discussing questions of increasing the production of fine-fiber cotton and improving its quality was opened today. Scientists, selectionists and leaders of the ministries, departments and farms from all the cotton-sowing republics of our country and guests from Moscow have arrived here.

The meeting, which is organized by the central and Turkmen administrations of the Scientific and Technical Society of Agriculture and agriculture ministries of the USSR and Turkmen SSR, was opened by E.G. Rogacheva, first deputy chairman of the administration of the Central Scientific and Technical Society of Agriculture. A.I. Rachkov, second secretary of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a speech. On behalf of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee and the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers and all the republic's workers, he warmly welcomed the participants and guests of the meeting and wished them fruitful work and further successes in verifying the agrarian policy of the party.

Y.M. Remidovkiy, chairman of the cotton-growing and fiber crops main administration of the USSR Agriculture Ministry, presented a report on ways to further intensify fine-fiber cotton production in light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the following plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. He noted that the cotton-sowing republics have been achieving abundant harvests of fine-fiber cotton, but the quantities are still not meeting need of the country for valuable raw cotton.

A.E. Dudko and U.R. Rakhmatulayev, chairmen of the cotton-growing main administrations of the Uzbek SSR and Tajik SSR agriculture ministries, reported on the situation and prospects for further increasing production and improving the quality of fine-fiber cotton in the fraternal republics of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. A.I. Imamaliyev and A.Kh. Khudaykuliyeu, academicians of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni Vladimir Ilich Lenin; S.N. Alimukhamedov, corresponding member of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni Vladimir Ilich Lenin; and K.K. Kurtgeldiyev, candidate of agricultural sciences; and other presented reports on the scientific

fundamentals for achieving an abundant and early harvest and for selecting the cotton farms on basis of fiber quality and on the systems and measures for protecting fine-fiber cotton fields against germs, diseases and weeds.

M.A. Charryev, secretary of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee; and G.S. Michshenko, first deputy chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers, participated in the meeting.

CSO: 1824/005

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 11-13 SEPTEMBER

[Editorial Report] LD140520--The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 11-13 September 1983. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

11 September

In Kharkov Oblast fodder procurers have completed procurement of corn for the silos, with nearly 3 million tonnes of it. (0130 GMT)

In Kurgan Oblast grain crops have been threshed on 40 percent of the area sown. Heavy rain is beating the reaped grain into the ground, which makes the farmers' task more difficult. (0430 GMT)

Ukraine: Mass harvesting is underway on areas allotted to potato growing--more than 560,000 hectares. About 1 million tonnes of the new potato harvest have now found their way to storage points. (0600 GMT)

Agricultural workers of Kaluga and Ivanova Oblasts and the Mari ASSR have fulfilled their socialist pledges for grain sales to the state. The USSR Central Statistical Administration [CSA] that Kaluga Oblast grain-procurement centers were received 119,000 tonnes of grain, those of Ivanovo Oblast 117,000 tonnes and those of Mari ASSR 110,000 tonnes. Wheat procurement plans have been overfulfilled. Collective and state farms have ensured themselves of a stock of cereal-crop seed for next year's harvest. Sale of buckwheat to the state is continuing. (1100 GMT)

Field work is proceeding in Uzbekistan, with preparations for sowing winter crops including deeper ploughing, as recommended by scientists to increase yields. (1750 GMT)

12 September

Tambov: Winter sowing has been completed, with over 500,000 hectares sown with tyulpan rye and mironovskaya-808 wheat. (0600 GMT)

Kazakhstan: Harvesting is nearing completion. The gathering of swaths is taking place on the 20th out of 25 million hectares. Despite complex

weather conditions the pace of work is sufficiently high. Many oblasts have completed this work. Among them are the Uralsk and Aktyubinsk Oblasts.

Altay: Autumn ploughing has been carried out on the first million hectares out of the almost 5 million set aside for the spring crops. Armenian farms intend to sell to the state over 80,000 tonnes of fruit. (1530 GMT)

Corn harvesting has begun in Kazakhstan. Yields of 50 to 60 quintals per hectare are being obtained by many farms. The first 100,000 tonnes of cotton of the new harvest have been picked in Turkmenia. (1904 GMT)

13 September

Farmers of Bukhara Oblast in Uzbekistan have achieved highest results in the picking of raw cotton. They have been awarded the challenge Red Banner of Republic Organizations. Yesterday 40,000 tonnes of cotton had been procured in the republic. Machine operators of Tselinograd Oblast are finishing the harvest in difficult weather conditions. To date, grain crops have been threshed on an area exceeding 90 percent of the whole sown area. (0200 GMT)

Potatoes have been lifted from half the planted area in farms of Ryazan Oblast. The planted area here totals 95,000 hectares. Many farms are producing an excellent crop--200,000 tonnes of potatoes have reached the stores so far. Fodder procurement continues in Kirghiziya. Grass has been cut on almost 1 million hectares to produce hay, haylage and vitaminized meal. In southern regions, the third alfalfa cutting is nearing completion and in some places the fourth has begun. (0430 GMT)

A total of 450,000 tonnes of grain has been delivered to grain enterprises in Kurgan Oblast. (0600 GMT)

According to a report from the CSA the farmers of Vladimir Oblast have fulfilled obligations for the sale of grain to the state. A total of 132,000 tonnes of grain have gone to procurement points. The plan for purchase of wheat was overfulfilled. Seed of grain crops has been put by for the next year's harvest. Sale of buckwheat to the state continues. (1200 GMT)

Altay farms have started mass harvest of sugar beet. (1230 GMT)

CSO: 1824/004

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 14-16 SEPTEMBER

[Editorial Report] LD172220--The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 14-16 Sep. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

14 September

In Uzbekistan the first 250,000 tonnes of cotton procured. More than 100,000 tons procured in Bukhara Oblast. No less than 6 million tons to be procured this year in the republic. (0800 GMT)

Tataria has exceeded the state grain sales pledge having sold, according to CSD figures, 1,540,000 tons of food grain. The leguminous crops plan is underfulfilled. (1300 GMT)

In the Kuban 500,000 tons of beet has been delivered. (1300 GMT)

The farmers of Turkmenia procured about 150,000 tons raw cotton by today. A total of 1,231,000 tons cotton was pledged to be handed over to the state by the republic's farmers this year. (1430 GMT)

In total throughout the country by the start of the week grain and leguminous crops had been reaped on almost 101 million hectares. On 94 million hectares the crops had been threshed. Now the harvest is largely going on in the Rals, Siberia and northern Kazakhstan. Work here is having to be carried out in complex weather conditions. Buckwheat has been harvested on more than half of area sown. The threshing of sunflower has been carried out on 1 million hectares. In all places the mass lifting of potatoes and sugar beet is continuing. Winter crops have taken up more than 24,500,000 hectares in the country--that is 61 percent of the area to be sown with them. (1500 GMT)

Sowing of winter crops is being carried out on a mass scale in southern regions of the country. Seeds have been sown on almost 25 million hectares. (1530 GMT)

15 September

Harvesting is entering final stages in Kazakhstan virginlands. In Kustan Oblast grain crops have been cut on more than 90 percent of the whole area. (0001 GMT)

The sugar beet harvest is gathering speed throughout the USSR, with 3,500,000 hectares sown to beet, and pledges of 9 million tons this year. Reportage from Vinnitsa Oblast, where bulbous beets are bursting the bottoms of procurement points; and farms, transport workers and procurement point operators are all pulling together with determination. Interviews with workers against deafening sound of machinery. First million tonnes of sugar produced at Vinnitsa refineries. (0800 GMT)

Winter crop sowing has ended in Belgorod Oblast. It occupies 445,000 hectares.

Wheat has been cut on almost 1 million hectares in the Altay in rainy conditions. (1530 GMT)

16 September

Prolonged rain continues to hold up progress of harvest work in Omsk Oblast. The grain in windrows is damp and work in these conditions requires particular skill. Many farms are using special devices which help the windrows to be turned several times and dried at the same time. To date, grain crops in the oblast have been threshed on almost two-thirds of the entire area to be harvested, which is 1,300,000 hectares. (0001 GMT)

Barley and wheat remainst to be harvested on the last 50,000 hectares of the 500,000 hectares sown in Kirghizia. These fields are situated at 2,000 m above sea-level in Tyan-shan. Yields are very good this year; for the republic as a whole they are 24.5-25 l/hectares, and Issyk-Kul Oblast is producing more than 35 l/hectares. Now mass harvesting of corn for grain is taking place in Osh, Talas Oblasts and the Chu Valley. (0001 GMT)

50,000 tonnes of cotton reached reception centers in Uzbekistan yesterday. Rates of picking are high, as always, in Bukhara Oblast. More than 100 combines will operate today in the fields of the southernmost, Surkhan-Darya Oblast. Mass cotton picking by machine will also start in other oblasts within the next few days. This year, Uzbek farmers have pledged to sell 6 million tonnes cotton to the state. (0400 GMT)

Harvesting of grain is in progress in Irkutsk Oblast. The weather conditions there are difficult for farmers. The early arrival of cold weather and frequent rain have delayed the ripening of grain crops. Therefore the harvest has started much later than usual. Mechanizers do not have much time in which to bring in the harvest. (0800 GMT)

Mordovian farms have fulfilled socialist obligations for state grain sales and delivered 360,000 tons of grain to reception points. The wheat sales plan has been over-fulfilled, and that for pulse crops under-fulfilled. Farms have supplied themselves with seed for next year's harvest. Sales of buckwheat and millet to the state continue. (1000 GMT)

In Altay Kray 500,000 tons of seed grain has already been put in store--mainly spring wheat. This is more than half the planned total. (1530 GMT)

In Kuybyshev Oblast sugar beet harvesting has begun; it occupies 16,000 hectares there. (1750 GMT)

CSO: 1824/004

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 22-27 SEPTEMBER

22-23 September

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by LD240331 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 22-23 September. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

22 September

In Omsk Oblast grains have been harvested on 1.5 million hectares to date, two-thirds of the sown area. Steady rain is hampering operations. (0204 GMT)

Corn harvesting completed in Ryazan Oblast; 165,000 hectares harvested. (0400 GMT)

Mass sowing of winter ear crops has begun in Kirgiziya; almost 300,000 tons planned for sowing. (0600 GMT)

Potatoes are now being harvested on the second half of the area in Belorussia. More than 740,000 tons have already been delivered to reception points and many farms have completed their plans. (1100 GMT)

Harvest of corn for grain has begun in all southern oblasts of Kazakhstan. The yield is high everywhere, many farms are yielding 50 to 60 quintals of grain per hectare. (1330 GMT)

23 September

Farmers of Kurgan Oblast have started harvesting grain crops on 2 million hectares, which is about 60 percent of areas sown to them; work has been made difficult in northwest regions by bad weather but the highest yield has been obtained there and workers are doing all to insure that rains cause the minimum of losses. (0004 GMT)

Reaping and threshing of grain is still in progress in the east of the country. They still are to be harvested on 14 million hectares, mainly in Siberia. A correspondent on East Kazakhstan reports from Tselinograd. He says that it is difficult to remember such a difficult harvest in the virgin lands. For

weeks there has virtually not been a day when there has been no rain. This has sharply reduced the rate of harvesting in the last few days. Farmers of Iselinograd Oblast are today nevertheless completing threshing of bread grain on an area of 3 million hectares. More than 70 percent of grain crops have been threshed on farms of Kustanay, Kokchetav and North Kazakhstan Oblasts. (0100 GMT)

In the Ukraine 8 million hectares of the winter-crop area have been sown; that is three quarters of the area given over to grains in the republic. Chernigov and Sumy Oblast farms have already completed sowing. (0600 GMT)

In Kazakhstan western and eastern oblasts are sowing winter crops--1 million hectares to date. Winter crops in local conditions give a better yield than spring varieties. This autumn more than 2 million hectares will be sown to grain crops. (1530 GMT)

24-25 September

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by LD260041 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 24-25 September. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

24 September

Grain-harvesting in Kustanay Oblast is on the fourth and last million hectares. Cereals have been threshed on over 80 percent of the area, despite bad weather. (0204 GMT)

In Omsk Oblast the rate of harvesting has increased; grains have been threshed here in the last 3 days on more than 200,000 hectares. (0600 GMT)

Azerbaijan farmers harvested almost a half of the planned cotton yield. More than 1.5 million tons of cotton have already been procured in the cotton-growing republics. (1630 GMT)

In Uzbekistan 1 million tons of cotton have been procured. "Unfortunately, in a number of oblasts, such as Andizhan and Fergana, most of the machines are standing idle." (2230 GMT)

25 September

One-third of the area of grain harvested in Kirghizia. Total area is about 50,000 hectares. Average yield is 66 quintals hectares. (0600 GMT)

In Tataria the potato harvest is ending. Total area is approximately 70,000 hectares. (0600 GMT)

Rice-threshing completed on over 10,000 hectares in the virgin lands of Kyzylkum. (0600 GMT)

Altay farms are gathering in grain crops on the final 1 million hectares in difficult weather conditions. During September there has been little sunshine and frequent rain. (1000 GMT)

Field workers celebrated the bringing in of crops on Sunday in Kazan. More than 1.5 million tons of wheat, rye, peas and buckwheat and other crops have been sold to the state by Tatariya grain growers. (1750 GMT)

26-27 September

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by LD280019 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 26-27 September. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

26 September

Penza farmers have, despite the whims of the weather, laid in good stocks of fodder, 4 million tons of corn silage have been stored. (0100 GMT)

In Kokchetav Oblast harvesting is proceeding after heavy rains; grain being threshed daily on 100,000 hectares. Grains have been reaped on almost 80 percent of sown area. (0204 GMT)

In Moldavia potato harvesting is ending; 215,000 tons procured to date. (0400 GMT)

In Tataria autumn plowing is completed on over 2 million hectares. (0400 GMT)

In Pavlodar Oblast reaping and threshing of grain crops is underway on the last 100,000 hectares. Rain has been replaced by dry weather. (0600 GMT)

The plan for laying in coarse fodders has been overfulfilled in Kazakhstan. many farms here now have stocks for 2 years. Ensilage work is now underway throughout the republic. (1100 GMT)

Winter rye is growing well in Altay. So far 2 million hectares of autumn plowland has been tilled in the kray, almost half of the planned total. (1100 GMT)

Altay rye is growing well. It is sown on 300,000 hectares. (0500 GMT)

In Kursk Oblast 2 million tons sugar beet have been lifted. (1800 GMT)

In Belorussia buckwheat harvest has been completed. (1800 GMT)

27 September

Prof Dmitriy Vann gives a talk on soil erosion, noting that eroded agricultural lands in the USSR total 58 million hectares and the ensuing shortfall of agricultural produce amounts to 20 million tons. He advises planting grasses and crops on fallows and regulation of thaw waters and torrents to combat this. (1000 GMT)

In Moldavia today, reaping of late-ripening strains of corn has started. The combines are being used with special devices for threshing the cobs. (1300 GMT)

In North Kazakhstan harvesting is near completion. The final stage is particularly difficult. All villagers in the oblast are taking part in the gathering of the crops. To date more than 95 percent of the sown area has been threshed. (1750 GMT)

Tashkent Oblast is leading in Uzbekistan in the cotton procurement rate. Here 80 percent of the harvest is picked by machinery. However, the progressive Tashkent experience has not been adopted sufficiently widely in Navoi Oblast or in Fergana Valley. (1750 GMT)

In Belgorod 2 million tons of sugar beet has procured to date. (1750 GMT)

Kuybyshev farmers have dispatched 1.8 million tons of grain to reception points, which was 400,000 tons more than the plan. They have sold 460,000 tons of wheat to the state. (0200 GMT)

CSO: 1824/015

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

CSA REPORTS ON GRAIN, PULSE HARVEST

LD150746 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Sep 83

[From the Vremya Newscast; audio only]

[Text] As the USSR CSA has reported, by 12 September grain crops and pulses except corn had been reaped in the country from an area of over 100 million hectares and had been threshed from over 94 million hectares. This is 93 percent of what had been reaped. Pulse have been harvested from almost 5.5 million hectares. Winter [grain] crops have been sown on an area of some 25 million hectares.

CSO: 1824/004

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

RECORD TEMPERATURE RECORDED IN TURKMENISTAN

PM120907 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by R. Pavlov: "Hot!"]

[Text:] Chardzhou--Unusually hot weather has persisted this summer in Turkmenistan. In the sandy "oven" of the Kara-Kum Desert air temperatures have reached as high as 50 degrees.

This temperature was last recorded at the Repetek weather station 13 July 1944.

"But this year the sun has had a field day," M. Dzhumayev, the station chief, told us by phone. "On 29 July the mercury column went over the absolute maximum, registering 50.2 degrees."

The country's hottest spot remains true to itself.

CSO: 1824/005

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

BRIEFS

TURKMEN COTTON PRODUCTION--Yesterday, 11,724 tons of cotton were delivered to the republic's storage centers. This is 0.95 percent of the plan for cotton delivery. To date, the republic's cottongrowers have fulfilled cotton delivery plan at 8.27 percent. Fine-fiber cotton continues to be gathered in the republic. Yesterday, the republic's cottongrowers collected 2,574 tons of fine-fiber cotton, a figure which constitutes 0.85 percent of fine-fiber delivery annual plan. To date, a total of (725,147) tons of fine-fiber cotton have been collected by the republic's cottongrowers, thus fulfilling 8.65 percent of the annual plan. [Summary] [GF130618
Ashkhabad Domestic Service in Russian 1545 GMT 12 Sep 83 GF]

CSO: 1824/005

LIVESTOCK FEED PROCUREMENT

RSFSR, UKRAINIAN FEED CROP PROGRESS

RSFSR Grass Harvesting

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] According to information from the Central Statistical Administration, on 18 June the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the RSFSR had mowed the natural and planted grasses on an area of more than 22 million hectares, which amounts to 54 percent of the plan. They have procured 18.5 million tons of hay, 19.7 million tons of haylage, 17.7 million tons of silage mass and 2.3 million tons of vitamin grass meal. A total of more than 17 million tons of feed units have been stored up, which is 25 percent of the plan. Last week was the most successful, when they managed to add more than 4 million tons of feed units to the feed supplies.

This year in the central economic region of Russia, as everywhere, they have paid more attention to the quality of the feeds. Many of them are being checked in laboratories. Quality indicators, as a rule, are taken into account when paying for labor. In the region as a whole, 62 percent of the hay is now of the first and second classes, and in Bryansk, Kaluga, Orel and Ryazan oblasts --from 73 to 88 percent. Of the haylage, 72 percent is of the highest category, and in Vladimir and Ryazan Oblasts--from 92 to 100 percent. Still, on a number of farms of Ivanovo, Kostroma and Kalinin oblasts more than one-fourth of all the hay is substandard. In Vladimir and Yaroslav Oblasts, a considerable quantity of the silage mass does not meet the requirements of the standards.

The poor quality of the feeds is a result of gross violations of the technology for their preparation. Thus, for example, on a number of farms of Vladimir Oblast they placed undried grasses in the clamps, and on the Vladimir Mayskiy sovkhos they use grass with a moisture content of up to 35 percent and call it hay. At the Yaroslav Druzhba training farm they have used plastic to cover grass with a moisture content of up to 80 percent.

As for the rates of mowing the grasses, they are highest in places where they extensively utilize technical maneuvering, achieve highly productive operation of each set of equipment and are able to adapt to the situation. In Bryansk Oblast, for example, having correctly evaluated the situation, they brought the people and the technical equipment out onto the meadows much earlier than usual and completed the first mowing before the rains started: because of this the oblast successfully fulfilled the plan for hay procurements.

In Moscow Oblast they have extensively utilized what they call the Mikhailovskaya technology which is intended for unpredictable weather. Here they dry the green mass that is mowed to 25-30 percent moisture content, and then they crush it and place it in trenches for storage. The maximum of nutritive substances is retained in this kind of feed.

The leaders in the rates of mowing of grasses and procuring of hay in the central economic region have been determined.

Leaders: Bryansk, Moscow, Orel and Tula Oblasts

There were quite a few examples of a creative approach to the matter in other oblasts as well. The leading farms everywhere are finding ways of counter-acting the bad weather. In Teykovskiy Rayon in Ivanova Oblast they have adapted agitators and hay stackers for drying the hay: 8 machine operators use them and during a day they dry more than 100 tons of hay. On the Aurora sovkhos in Vologda Oblast they have constructed special sheds from sawmill wastes, in which ventilation installations have been installed: the hay with high moisture content that is placed in them is rapidly dried to the proper condition. A number of farms have organized the drying of hay on hay straddles, which also produces a great effect. As soon as the rains began, many kolkhozes and sovkhos began to prepare silage from wild grasses. In Kaluga Oblast they gave preference to haylage, and they have learned to prepare it well here.

It is bad, however, when the managers of one farm or another are excessively attracted to one particular technology and thus narrow the possibilities. Moreover, they are not interested in the experience of the best workers and do not adopt it.

The Laggards: Vladimir, Kalinin, Kostroma and Yaroslav Oblasts

Here they have mowed less than 70 percent of the natural and planted grasses and procured less than 60 percent of the necessary quantity of hay and haylage. In places where the situation is somewhat better there are still quite a few rayons that are not conducting the haying very vigorously. In Pitelinskiy Rayon in Ryazan Oblast the feed procurement equipment has not been repaired promptly, and the machines frequently break down; this, incidentally, has also been the case in past years. There are excellent irrigated meadows available in Klepikovskiy Rayon which is also in Ryazan Oblast, but here too they are preparing little more than half of the required amount of hay.

Certain leading oblasts which have not put all reserves into action should be seriously reproached. Certain farms of Moscow Oblast shut down work in the meadows prematurely. On the Shoshinskiy sovkhos in Lotoshinskiy Rayon even now one can see untouched grasses in the Shoshi lowland. There are neither men nor mowers near the river.

The harvest time is also either coming or has come to the center of Russia and the tension is increasing, but regardless of how difficult it may be, it is inadmissible to stop the procurement of feeds.

Ukrainian Hay-Mowing

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 2 Aug 83 p 1

[Excerpt] All oblasts of the republic have practically completed the first mowing of planted and natural grasses today. They have procured 5.5 million tons of hay and 2.5 million tons of green mass from wild grasses. But one cannot be satisfied with what has been accomplished. This year there are possibilities of procuring more than a ton of hay per cow on an average for the republic and essentially increasing its proportion in the structure of feeds. And rural party organizations, RAPO specialists, and managers of kolkhozes and sovkhoses are obligated to arrange things in such a way as to take advantage of this possibility.

The second mowing is now in progress in many oblasts. True, the rates of hay procurements are somewhat lower because of the fact that grain harvesting time has come. The reaping is now already coming to an end and it is necessary to concentrate a maximum of efforts on procuring feeds, being especially concerned about their quality and preservation.

The motto of the harvest: "To harvest everything that has been raised, and to procure everything that has been harvested." It is no less crucial in this stage than during the reaping. Unfortunately, it is not being reinforced with intelligent practical actions everywhere. One need not go far for examples. On several farms of Kharkov Oblast, for instance, they are not drying the pulse grasses of the second mowing for the future, and they are using them for feed without mixing them with grasses. As a result, instead of the expected increase in the productivity of livestock there is a reduction of the weight gains and milk yields.

One cannot put up with the fact that in a number of places the rates of hay procurements are considerably below the average republic levels. As working figures show, in Chernovtsy Oblast the assignment for storing up haylage is being fulfilled poorly, and only 0.4 tons of hay per cow have been procured. Workers of Poltava Oblast are doing much less of this work than is possible.

An important reserve for augmenting forage supplies are repeated plantings of corn, legume and grass mixtures, perco, rape, oil-bearing radish and Sudan grass. They occupy 1.2 million hectares in the republic and should essentially improve the feed balance on many farms. At the same time it is necessary to do everything possible so as to expand the after harvest plantings in the shortest possible periods of time. As we know, this way the grazing period in the autumn is prolonged a great deal and, because of this, it will be possible to procure hay and haylage from subsequent mowings for the future. And rayon agro-industrial associations and farm specialists should display primary concern about this.

It is also important to be concerned about juicy feeds. This year conditions exist for considerably augmenting the supplies of them with the tops of sugar beets, whose harvest is expected to be more than last year's in the majority of oblasts. And it is necessary to handle this wealth skillfully and efficiently, and to carefully store all of it.

Corn harvesting has begun. One should promptly single out those areas of it which will not be predecessors for winter crops and leave the corn there until the stage of waxy ripeness. On large areas the silage corn is being cultivated according to grain technology this year. Some of it has to be harvested individually and the cobs should be stored up as mixed feed silage for hogs, and ordinary silage from the stalks should be prepared as feed for cattle. Stalks of grain crops are to be made into silage on a large scale as well. Everything should be put to work.

The quality of feed supplies will depend to a decisive degree on proper storage. Therefore the time remaining until the beginning of the harvesting of corn and sugar beets should be used to complete the repair and decontamination of the storage facilities. At the same time it is necessary to check and make sure that all technical equipment is ready to go out onto the fields, to clarify the routes once again, and to revise working plans for the forthcoming harvest period.

This entire broad spectrum of issues should be under the constant supervision of local party organizations, RAPO specialists and farm managers. There can be nothing trivial here--for concern about maximum accumulation of seeds is, in the final analysis, concern for successful implementation of the Food Program.

RSFSR Overview

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Feed production has now been separated into an independent branch on all kolkhozes and sovkhozes. It is handled by specialized subdivisions that are equipped with modern high-powered technical equipment and headed by experienced specialists. In addition to improving natural lands, feed crops are being planted on irrigated land on an increasingly large scale.

The grain harvest and the green harvest are now proceeding at the same rapid rate. By Monday, 18 July, the planted and meadow grasses in the country were mowed on an area of 51.8 million hectares--61 percent of the assignment. This is almost 3 million hectares more than were mowed as of this date last year. They have stored up 42 million tons of hay--58 percent of the plan. This is 13.4 million tons more than last year. The figure for haylage is 45.2 million tons or 68 percent. As compared to 1982 the additional amount is fairly appreciable--almost 8.5 million tons. They have already managed to store up about 10 million tons of silage, almost 4 million tons of grass meal have been prepared, and they have stored up 11.7 million tons of straw.

These days the arrears in feed procurements in the Russian Federation are being made up for on the farms of Kalinin, Kostroma, Yaroslavl, Kirov and Kuybyshev oblasts, and the Kabardino-Balkar and Northern Ossetian autonomous republics. In the Ukraine the farmers are combining the reaping of grain fields with the preparation of the soil for repeated plantings and the planting of winter crops. The volume of this work is twice as great as last year's. They have managed to achieve this because of the fact that the machine operators took disk and subsoil equipment out onto the fields after the combines, which made it possible to

accumulate moisture and nutritive substances better than with ordinary plowing, and to destroy weeds mechanically.

In Donetsk, Kherson, Zaporozh'ye and other oblasts where they apply the subsoil method of preparing the soil they obtain considerable additional yields of grain and feed crops. No less important is the fact that surface cultivation has made it possible to cut labor expenditures in half and save on fuel. Repeated plantings have already been completed in the republic on an area of 1.2 million hectares.

The problem of feeds has always been especially critical in the arid steppes of the Volga area. Now they grow on irrigated land. Last year, for example, Saratov Oblast was the first to harvest 1 million tons of feed units from these areas. This year they have resolved to surpass this indicator by 200,000 tons. The additional yield is impressive. This means that from each hectare it is necessary to gather no less than 50 quintals of feed units, which is equivalent to a yield of oats of 50 quintals per hectare.

The first mowing now produces 135-140 quintals of green mass per hectare in the oblast. This is considerably more than last year. As a result, the milk yields have also increased appreciably.

In Leningrad Oblast the animal husbandry complex of the Krasnogvardeyskiy sovkhoz provides an example of good organization. Emissaries from neighboring farms come here most frequently to observe the practice because on the Krasnogvardeyskiy large milk yields are received not only during the summer, but year around. The flowline-shop structure of labor organization has provided the success for the animal husbandry workers. The leading team of this is the section of the so-called preliminary preparation of the herd. The cows here are distributed into groups so as to obtain more milk with the same expenditures of feeds.

And since all feed is different and depends on the fertility of the soil, the sovkhoz has conducted capital repair of the land and reduced the expenditure of grain by replacing it with vitamin meal made from more nutritive legume crops. All the forage is prepared before it is given to the animals. A well equipped feed shop has been created for this.

Businesslike concern for feeds is advantageous in that it produces a large return immediately. One becomes convinced of this from the experience of the collective of the Kizlyazinskiy cattle fattening sovkhoz in Apsheron'skiy Rayon, where they are now raising the best nourished steers in all of Azerbaijan. Their release weight has reached an average of 540 kilograms. The ration for feeding the young animals was drawn up by scientists. The control weighings show that each steer gains an entire kilogram during a day.

The republic has now organized more than 50 interfarm areas and farms for completing the raising and fattening of cattle. Since the beginning of the current five-year plan the purposive work for strengthening the feed base here has made it possible to increase the average release weight of animals by 20 kilograms.

It would seem that selection work in animal husbandry has nothing to do with the feed problem. Nonetheless, consumers have started to visit the Astrakhanskiy breeding farm more frequently. This year they acquired 8,000 purebred ewes here. And it is all because this farm has changed over to producing its own feeds on an irrigated area of 1,500 hectares. They have been assigned to 4 brigades under contract and the machine operators have been given soil cultivation equipment and sprinklers. Moreover, the farm has provided itself with its own enterprise for preparing haylage, grass meal and granules. It has enough for its own needs and it sells the surplus to the state in exchange for concentrated feeds.

The front of the grain harvest is expanding each day. Each day and each hour is valuable in the green harvest as well. The local soviets of people's deputies and young agro-industrial associations, in addition to harvesting the grain, have no greater task today than to create a reliable supply of high-quality feeds.

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LIVESTOCK

IMPROVEMENT NEEDED IN TECHNICAL SERVICE FOR RSFSR LIVESTOCK SECTOR

Moscow SEL-SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 14 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by I. Mikheyenkov, chief of the Goskomsel'khoztekhnika [State Committee of the Agricultural Equipment Association], RSFSR: "Farms and Machinery--To Improve the Engineering and Technical Service for Livestock Breeding"]

[Text] Russian Federation livestock breeding has a powerful material and technical potential available to it. At its disposal are 280,000 units accommodating cattle and fowl, about 1,700 large-scale livestock breeding complexes, more than 6,000 poultry plants and 45,000 feed preparing shops and plants.

Farms and agricultural complexes are elaborate engineering and biological facilities. It is sufficient to mention that 270,000 milking and refrigeration units, 440,000 feed dispensers and conveyors for cleaning the facilities, 140,000 steam generating boilers, a large number of electric motors and much other complex equipment are in use here.

The reliable operation of this entire immense arsenal of equipment greatly influences the growth of productivity of the animals and the quality of livestock being bred. In recent years much has been done to improve technical service for livestock breeding equipment. The functions and responsibilities of each facet have been precisely determined. Enterprises of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika carry out the most complex periodic preventive maintenance and repair operations on machinery and equipment. The kolkhozes and sovkhoses carry out daily technical care and maintenance work.

Presently there are 1,630 specialized stations (central bases of the rayon unit) in the Raysel'khoztekhnika [Rayon Agricultural Equipment Association] which are equipped with a sufficient number of diagnostic facilities, and 10,000 truck-mounted mobile repair shops. They have at their disposal 50,000 expert repairmen. On kolkhozes and sovkhoses respectively there are 50,000 points, sectors and posts where more than 120,000 expert repairmen work.

More than 95 percent of the republic's farms employ the services of the Raysel'khoztekhnika. Ninety-six percent of the milking machines and 90 percent of the refrigeration units are taken in for periodic maintenance as are the same number of conveyors for cleaning the facilities. Basically all stationary

feed dispensers and mechanized feed preparation shops as well as a large number of other complex machinery are also serviced by Raysel'khoztekhnika's. In the Raysel'khoztekhnika's training classes, 50,000 to 60,000 workers in livestock breeding learn and increase their qualifications every year.

Nor do enterprises of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika eschew servicing large-scale livestock breeding complexes. At the present time, they have taken on servicing of 96 percent of the dairy complexes, 85 percent of the cattle fattening enterprises and 76 percent of those engaged in raising and fattening of pigs.

However, the problem of increasing the level of engineering services for livestock breeding remains critical. The farms do not always receive prompt technical assistance during emergency equipment break-downs; work quality at times does not meet modern requirements; in a number of instances, the equipment is serviced incompletely; a good production base for engineering and technical service has not been established everywhere and further improvement in supplying the farms and complexes with material resources is required.

Now when agro-industrial associations have been set up and are operating in the countryside, it is necessary to reorganize not only the business itself, but the psychology engaged in technical servicing for livestock breeding as well. If before the creation of the RAPO [Rayon Agro-Industrial Association] traveling brigades from Raysel'khoztekhnika serviced farm equipment as sub-contractors, within the limits of concluded agreements, now they bear full responsibility equally with the farms for the equipment's operative state.

On the basis of the new requirements, the Raysel'Khoztekhnika's are called upon to provide technical management of the technical servicing points and posts on kolkhoz and sovkhoz farms more objectively and teach the workers to use the equipment more efficiently. And in fact, wages and material and moral stimulation of engineering and technical personnel now depend on the final results of the operation of farms and agricultural complexes.

The engineering services for livestock breeding are reorganizing their work in the new manner well at a number of agro-industrial associations of oblasts and autonomous republics of the non-chernzem zone of the RSFSR. Here a high level of technical readiness of equipment on farms has been achieved, particularly at feed preparations shops. This and other measures have shown an appropriate effect on the results. In 1982 the increment in milk product on as compared with 1981 was 10 percent on the average throughout the zone.

An automated, computer-run system for controlling technical servicing of livestock breeding has been developed and incorporated by specialists of the Moscow Oblisel'khoztekhnika [Oblast Agricultural Equipment Association] and the main production administration for agriculture of Mosoblispolkom [Moscow Oblast ispolkom]. The system makes it possible to monitor the condition of the equipment, to plan work, set-up maintenance schedules and determine requirements for material and labor resources as well as their efficient use.

In Moscow Oblast, within each of 33 Raysel'khoztekhnika's, full-capacity farm equipment maintenance stations have been created. The Khot'kovskoye Specialized Association is a central base for engineering service for livestock breeding; it supplies all the Raysel'khoztekhnika's with spare parts, materials and an exchangeable stock of units and assemblies, as well as performing capital repair of all equipment. The oblast is an important milk producer, and the well-organized engineering services on the farms permits the kolkhozes and sovkhozes to turn over most of this valuable product to the state at the Grade 'A' level.

In the Yurgamysh, Shumikha and several other rayons of Kurgan Oblast, a unified livestock breeding engineering service has already been functioning for several years. The Raysel'khoztekhnika's have taken upon themselves all concerns for servicing and operating machinery and equipment on the sovkhozes and kolkhozes, including monthly and periodic servicing. The workers from the village evaluate such an approach to business positively.

There are more and more followers of the progressive advanced experience. For example, the Kama Special Department of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika in the Tatar ASSR for servicing poultry plants and other livestock breeding installations is working well. The technical readiness of the equipment is always at the highest level within this enterprise's sphere of activities.

The Suzdal Special Department of Vladimir Oblsel'khoztekhnika, which services a livestock breeding complex for fattening 10,000 head of cattle, might serve as an example of the coordinate working of engineering services for livestock breeding. There is useful experience on hand in Stavropol, Krasnodar and Khabarovsk Krays in Bashkir ASSR and in Gorkiy, Belogorod, Kalinin, Chelyabinsk, Kuybyshev and a number of other oblasts.

The activity of the new agricultural control units has a positive effect on strengthening bonds between enterprises of Goskomsel-khoztekhnika and the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. However, a number of questions go beyond the bounds of the competency of RSFSR Goskomsel'khoztekhnika and the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture. This, the supply of steel tubing, electric materials and individual types of spare parts and equipment to the farms and complexes has not as yet been regulated. The demand for tubing is being satisfied at the rate of 10-15 percent; special tubing is not being allocated at all for repair of outside heat systems, water pipes and boiler installations. Supplying the large-scale livestock breeding complexes with material resources has become one of the most acute problems at the present time.

Maintenance is suffering due to a lack of truck-mounted mobile repair shops, poor quality of farm machinery and equipment as well as industrial rubber items for the milking units. Successful resolution of all of these questions will also have a positive effect on further improvement of the engineering services with which livestock breeding is supplied.

RAYON OFFICIALS INTERVIEWED ON RAPO OPERATIONS

Moscow *Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta* in Russian No 33, Aug 83 p 15

[Article by N. Dudorov: "Interest in the Final Results"]

[Text] Recently the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers adopted a decree on improving economic relationships between the agricultural enterprises and the organizations which provide services for them. Work has already been carried out in this regard in a number of rayon agroindustrial associations based upon the principles of the Standard Statute for a RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/. We visited Sandovskiy Rayon in Kalinin Oblast, met with the leaders of enterprises and organizations included in the structure of the agroindustrial complex and became acquainted with the work being performed by the kolkhozes and sovkhoses under the new conditions. Some notes concerning this trip are herewith published.

In Sandovskiy Rayon there is a rather broad range of enterprises and organizations which in one way or another are associated with providing services for the kolkhozes and sovkhoses. This includes flax plants, milk processing enterprises, raysel'khoztekhnika, Sel'khozkhimiya, a PMK /mobile mechanized column/ for the Kalininmelioratsiya Association, the inter-kolkhoz PMK of Kalininoblkolkhozstroy and a number of other organizations included in the RAPO structure.

How is this complex being administered at the present time and how is it possible to channel the work of all of the participants in the same direction so as to ensure that they are working towards the same final result, displaying concern for improving the economies of the farms, increasing the production and sale of field and farm products to the state and raising the quality of these products.

Chairman of the Council of the Sandovskiy RAPO P. Bondarenko: "I would like to note first of all that it is not that easy to organize the administrative mechanism, while retaining departmental subordination for the enterprises and organizations included in the agroindustrial association. But today the solving of many problems associated with improving relationships between agriculture and the branches which provide services for it has been simplified

with the adoption by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers of the decree entitled "Improving Economic Relationships Between Agriculture and Other Branches of the National Economy." It calls for greater economic responsibility on the part of all enterprises and organizations charged with providing services for the kolkhozes and sovkhoses for the final results and for ensuring that agriculture is provided with timely and high quality services.

The RAPO Council possesses many rights which allow it to exert an influence, for example, over the work being performed by Sel'khoztekhnika, Sel'khozkhimiya, land reclamation specialists and builders.

Indeed, earlier these organizations themselves determined the list and volume of work to be carried out for the farms. Today the RAPO Council formulates and approves all of the plans. It also approves the recommendations for awarding bonuses to Sel'khoztekhnika and Sel'khozkhimiya workers, land reclamation specialists and to builders. In short, extensive rights have been granted to RAPO and they must be utilized to a greater degree.

During one particular meeting of the council, a discussion was held on the work of the Sel'khozkhimiya Association. Analysis revealed that quite often the chemical materials were not delivered to the farms on a timely basis, nor are they being delivered in the assortment required for obtaining the planned yields. And it is very gratifying to note that the decree on improving economic relationships among the APK branches calls for economic sanctions to be applied against those enterprises which supply fertilizers and other chemical agents on an untimely basis.

Discussions are to be held in the near future on the work of the Raysel'khoztekhnika Association, particularly in view of the fact that the kolkhozes and sovkhoses have been addressing some rather just complaints against this organization. Indeed, certain paradoxical situations are arising from time to time. Allow me to cite such an example. A line-installation section has been created attached to Sel'khoztekhnika which installs equipment on farms and undertakes to provide them with technical servicing. It would seem that this is all quite proper. But not even electric bulbs are sold to the farms. Instead they are transferred over to the line section where they are twice as expensive owing to the fact their price increases owing to various overhead expenses.

Today definite economic restraints have been placed upon Raysel'khoztekhnika. Its chief concern has nothing to do with increasing the volume of work or profits. It must first of all fulfill in a strict manner its contractual obligations for servicing the farms and all of its work must be aimed at increasing the production of agricultural products. With regard to the cost of services, it must not exceed the expenditures of the farms themselves for these purposes.

A judgement can be made regarding the quality of the services being provided for the kolkhozes and sovkhoses by Sel'khoztekhnika and Sel'khozkhimiya by listening first of all to the statements made by the farm leaders themselves.

Chairman of the Kolkhoz imeni Sverdlov N. Smirnov: "First of all, we cannot justify too great an assortment of items of equipment to be used for , let us

say, procuring feed. Here the chief concern is that the productivities of the units vary greatly. For example, let us take the k-453 pick-up baler and the d-282 and d-302 machines. It is a pleasure to see them in operation; their productivity is 3-4 times higher than that of the Kirgizstan (PS-1.6) pick-up baler, which is employed on the same tract of grasses. The time is at hand for Minzhivmash, Minsel'khoz /Ministry of Agriculture/ and Soyuzsel'khoztekhnika to acquire a better understanding of the feed procurement machines, to select the very best models and to increase their production. The farms will then be able to procure more and better feed with less expenditures. Fewer spare parts are required for a limited assortment of machines.

Permit me now to discuss the quality of the technical services being provided for our kolkhoz. Raysel'khoztekhnika has an engine exchange point. If engines are available, one can be obtained immediately. If none are available, then one must wait for repairs to be carried out. And since there is no personal responsibility for the repair work, one may turn over a good engine and receive back a poor one. A number of requirements must be met in order to ensure the best use of the equipment: the timely delivery of spare parts; strict observance of the contracts for technical services; a reserve of engines to compensate for untimely repair operations; maximum improvements in the skills possessed by the machine operators and livestock breeders. Sel'khoztekhnika must concern itself with the above problems and it must create combines for training and improving the skills of the machine operators, especially in connection with new equipment.

Manager of the Sel'khoztekhnika Association A. Platonov: "We have become accustomed to receiving criticism. Certainly, there are careless workers in every collective. But not all of the shortcomings are caused by us. It can be stated directly: the fund of available spare parts is small. Hence the criticism of the farms. For example, we deliver the GAZ-51 engines to the Bezhet'sk Repair Plant where there are no spare parts. Yes and the quality of the repair work is low. Nor are we able to exert any influence on this enterprise.

Mention must necessarily be made regarding the quality of the machines being received. For example, some combines are simply impossible to assemble in view of the fact that the openings do not coincide. Or let us take the DT-75 and S-M tractors. Quite often the engines installed in them do not provide the planned motor potential.

At the present time, an increase is taking place in the responsibility which must be displayed by those enterprises which produce the tractors and other agricultural machines, for the quality and timely deliveries of the equipment. They are obligated to make reimbursement for the cost of repairing machines which break down during their warranty period.

The MTZ-82 is a fine tractor for our conditions. But our rayon is being supplied with no more than 18 such units annually. For the most part, we are being supplied with DT-75 S-M caterpillar tractors -- 100 tractors, although a considerably fewer number of them are required. Two thirds of the tractors in our pool should be wheeled tractors.

Quite often we are accused of overcharging the farms. But we operate in accordance with the accepted statutes. Definite prices have been established for all of the services and we adhere to them in a very strict manner. If they do not conform to the actual expenditures, then they should be reviewed.

Excessive specialization within the Sel'khoztekhnika system is arousing some doubt. For example, the Bologoye Sel'khoztekhnika Association specializes in the repair of engines for the YuMZ-6-L tractor. Thus it happens that 1-2 engines must be transported over great distances for repair purposes. This is certainly very costly.

With regard to our collective, it has become noticeably more active under RAPO. The association has been staffed with personnel and it has a fine base. And there is reason to believe that the services for the farms are improving. The new system for issuing incentives to the association's workers is directed towards achieving this goal.

In discussions held with farm leaders, special emphasis was placed upon the need for retaining personnel in the rural areas and especially in animal husbandry. What measures are available for stimulating a flow of personnel to the kolkhozes and sovkhoses?

Chairman of the Zavet Lenina Kolkhoz Valeriy Vasil'yevich Berezkin: "With regard to ensuring that the farms are supplied with personnel, including animal husbandry, we consider the chief concern to be that of solving the social problems: first of all, the construction of modern settlements possessing all of the usual conveniences and good access roads. At the present time we are building a new central farmstead for the farm consisting of 68 apartments. And there are more than enough tenants waiting to fill these apartments. Requests are being received from various rayons, including the Kuban. New central farmsteads similar to ours are already under construction on four farms in the rayon.

Chief of the Kalinino Mezhhkolkhozstroy PMK V. Roslyakov: "At the present time, completely unjustified and excessive specialization is being observed among sub-contracting organizations in the rural areas. As many as a dozen of them participate in the erection of an apartment building. One organization installs the external electric wiring, another the internal wiring, a third lays down the pipelines, a fourth installs the gas line, a fifth builds the road and so forth. The management of the sub-contracting organizations should be handled by one authority.

Just as in other rayons throughout the oblast, land reclamation work is being carried out on large areas in Sandovskiy Rayon. It is being carried out by PMK-29 of the Kalininmelioratsiya Association. This organization has also been criticized to a considerable degree by the farms.

Chief of PMK-29 of Kalininmelioratsiya V. Veselkov: "The opinion that the land reclamation specialists build and accept the installations themselves is incorrect. Competent committees are created for the purpose of accepting a new tract of land. Representatives of the oblast, farm specialists, the land reclamation specialists themselves and representatives of the agricultural

administration participate in the work of such committees. Moreover, the tract is accepted during the summer, when it is possible to see how the system operates.

At the present time, we are first of all striving to achieve high quality land reclamation construction work and to have it carried out as part of an overall complex of operations.

First Secretary of the Sandovskiy Rayon Committee of the CPSU A. Vinogradov: "We have given the council of the agroindustrial association broad independence in solving the production and economic problems. But at the same time, an increase has taken place in the responsibility of the farms, other participants in the association and its council for the final results and for increasing the production and sale of products to the state.

One important task of the RAPO Council is that of rapidly introducing into operational practice all of the statutes called for in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers concerned with improving the economic mechanism and interrelationships among the partners in the agroindustrial complex.

We are holding general party meetings for the RAPO communists, where detailed discussions are taking place on the status of affairs in each subunit. And this is producing positive results. Certainly, a great amount of work still remains to be carried out in connection with improving the operational methods. These methods have been developed for the most part and are in need of improvement.

What conclusions can be drawn from the discussions held with the leaders and specialists of all of the enterprises, organizations and farms including in the RAPO structure? Not all of the elements for administering the rayon's agroindustrial complex have been organized completely. But with consistent implementation of the principles contained in the Standard Statute for Rapo's and the new decree, it should be possible to improve considerably the services for the farms. And this is already apparent in the results achieved by the rayon's kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

For example, spring sowing operations were carried out in a more organized manner this year. At the present time, it appears that a good harvest is in the offing. The kolkhozes and sovkhoses are successfully procuring their hay, silage and grass meal. The method involving use of a collective approach for cultivating flax and potatoes and also in feed production has undergone extensive development.

During the past 6 months, the rayon's farms were expected to sell 8,943 tons of milk and they actually sold 9,250 tons. The task for the sale of meat to the state has been fulfilled. All of this testifies to the fact that the Sandovskiy RAPO is gaining in strength and is striving to utilize all available reserves for raising the efficiency of agricultural production.

DISCUSSIONS ON ECONOMIC MECHANISM OF APK SYSTEM

Interrelations of Enterprise Partners

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 32, Aug 83 p 14

[Article: "The Economic Mechanism of the APK--First Discussion"]

[Text] With the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers on improving economic interrelations in agroindustrial associations a number of measures are outlined to promote greater responsibility for efficiency of agricultural production of the APK partners. The editors are beginning publication of discussions of the nature of the economic mechanism in agroindustrial associations. The discussions are conducted by USSR Ministry of Agriculture specialists. The first discussion follows.

At the present time agroindustrial associations have been organized and are now functioning in 3,102 rayons and in 157 oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics. Members of the RAPO [rayon agroindustrial association] include all kolkhozes and sovkhoses located in the territory of the rayon and also enterprises and organizations which are charged with agricultural production service, procurement, storage, and processing of agricultural output. Related to these are repair, service, and supply enterprises of Goskomsel'khoshtekhnika, enterprises of Mezhkolkhozstroy [Interkolkhoz Construction] and construction ministries raysel'khoskhimi [rayon agricultural chemistry organizations], Sel'khosenergo [Agricultural Energy], dairy and canning plants, meat combines, elevators, grain-receiving points, and others directly related to agricultural production.

This decree envisions increasing the responsibility of enterprises and organizations which serve kolkhozes and sovkhoses and other agricultural enterprises and organizations for increasing production and procurement of agricultural output and for the quality and performance times of work and services.

Organizations of development and implementation of measures for increasing utilization of land, fixed production capital, and capital investment, good, qualified advice, specific help in solving problems which the farms themselves

cannot solve, current information and rendering of assistance for the introduction of scientific achievements and progressive practices--from our point of view these are some of the characteristic features of the new style of work of the agroindustrial associations which will create business-like conditions among farms.

As we know, giving farm managers and specialists more independence significantly increases their responsibility for resolutions they have made and for fulfilling assigned tasks.

At the same time, the right of control over the activities of subordinate enterprises is not being taken away from higher organs, and they have a right and are obligated to intervene in their activities if business interests demand it. But this should be the exception rather than the rule.

A no-less important feature in the work of the councils of agroindustrial associations is directing the activity of other association member enterprises and organizations of the agroindustrial complex in the interests of developing agriculture and insuring preservation and sale of all output produced.

To a decisive degree the success of the work as a whole will be determined by the extent to which this work will be coordinated and organized and the extent to which the efforts of APK enterprises and organizations are organizationally and economically subordinated to the final goal.

It is very important to establish correct organizational and economic interrelations among kolkhozes, sovkhoses, and enterprises and organizations expected to serve them. In light of this all kinds of attempts to replace departmental organs of administration and attempts to transfer their functions to the RAPO councils should be precluded. On the contrary, their role, significance and responsibility for fulfilling obligations charged to them should increase. Enterprises and organizations serving RAPO member kolkhozes and sovkhoses are charged with fulfilling functions not only as contractors for certain kinds of work, but also with organizing and supporting the work of the whole sector and carrying complete responsibility for its condition and development.

Take, for example, organization of the activity of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika system enterprises. With the creation of the RAPO, rural engineering-technical service is significantly centralized and many functions for organizing repair and technical service of agricultural equipment of kolkhozes and sovkhoses have been transferred to rayon associations of Sel'khoztekhnika. Their administrators as a rule are deputy RAPO council chairman in charge of issues of mechanization and electrification of agricultural production and material-technical supply.

The basic engineering-technical service, the repair and maintenance depot for agricultural equipment service, and spare parts warehouses are concentrated under unified organizational management in the rayon for practical purposes. To a significant degree this increases responsibility of the Sel'khoztekhnika system as a whole for the technical condition of the machine-tractor fleet, for raising the technical readiness of agricultural equipment, improving

quality and decreasing the time and cost of repair. Agroindustrial association councils have the right to demand all this in the local areas from rayon production associations of Sel'khoztekhnika.

Functions analogous to the rayon association of Sel'khoztekhnika should be specified for enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources system, Soyuzsel'khozkhimiya [USSR Agricultural Chemistry], and others.

RAPO Administrative Structure Explained

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 34, Aug 83 p 19

[Article: "RAPO: The Structure of Management--Second Discussion"]

[Text] The present discussion of the economic mechanism of the APK is concerned with the structure of management of the rayon agroindustrial association, conducted by the subdivisions which are charged with improving economic work in kolkhozes and sovkhoses and enterprises and organizations serving them. The first discussion about responsibility of APK partners for final results was published in issue No 32. This section is being conducted by specialists of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture.

The fundamental distinguishing characteristic of rayon agroindustrial associations is that they do not have their own separate management apparatus. The rayon agricultural administration fulfills its functions.

The model structure of the rayon agricultural administration, which is the working apparatus of the RAPO council, is determined by the fact that the following structural subdivisions (services) may be found in it: general and operational management; production department; department of intersectorial links and planning; department (group) for procuring, marketing, and processing of agricultural output; department (group) for labor and social issues; department (group) for accounting and reporting; and, the control-inspection department (group).

This structure may change depending on the normative size of the particular rayon agricultural administration and other characteristics of the rayon. For example, in many rayons of the Russian Federation an animal husbandry department, a crop farming department, and others are set up instead of the production department.

The structure and personnel of the rayon agricultural administrations under the new conditions make provisions for fulfilling tasks charged to the agroindustrial association, and should be set up taking into consideration the characteristics of style of work of the new organs. For example, in the structure of the rayon agricultural administration the creation of a large

department of intersectorial links and planning is envisioned, which is to perform fundamental and rather complicated preparatory work related to coordination of the activities of all enterprises and organizations belong to the association.

In the interests of the work it is imperative from our point of view that not less than 30-35 percent of the total number of management personnel be in this department. At the same time the creation of a comparatively small production department, in which specialists are included by sector, will allow kolkoz and sovkhos specialists to show more initiative and independence in solving technological and organizational issues of production.

What is new and important in principle is that, unlike the associations formed earlier in Georgia, Latvia, and Estonia on an experimental basis, the new organs have been given more effective economic levers of management. This means the right to determine the volume of work and services rendered to the kolkhozes and sovkhozes by service enterprises, as well as tariffs and rates for the majority of them; the right to integrate and redistribute capital investment and some material-technical resources; and, what is very important, the right to determine conditions for awarding bonuses to management personnel and specialists of all association-member enterprises and organizations regardless of their departmental affiliation and taking into account the final output received from agriculture.

Great opportunities have been made available to the agroindustrial associations in formation and utilization of the resources of centralized funds which are being set up through deductions of funds from association-member enterprises and organizations.

Extensive rights in implementing control over the activity of association-member enterprises and organizations have been made available to the rayon agroindustrial council. It may hear reports of the managers of enterprises and organizations on their fulfillment of plans and assignments for production, state purchase, storage, transportation and processing of agricultural output, delivery of machinery, equipment, materials, spare parts, and mineral fertilizers, on performance of work in all types of services to kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and on other issues of joint activity; and it may make the necessary decisions on them.

In short, a qualitatively new organ of management has been created in the rural areas. It not only manages an absolute majority of agricultural enterprises, but is also charged with directing and coordinating the activity of all enterprises and organizations belonging to the agroindustrial complex.

Interbranch Section Functions Defined

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 35, Aug 83 p 14

[Article: "Intersectorial Links and Planning--Third Discussion"]

[Text] The preceding discussion (EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 34) referred to a department of intersectorial links and planning and being created in

the structure of RAPO management, in its working apparatus, the functions of which the rayon agricultural administration fulfills. USSR Ministry of Agriculture specialists tell about the functions of this department.

One of the basic tasks of the department of intersectorial links and planning is to provide proportional and balanced development of enterprises and organizations belonging to the rayon agroindustrial association. Regardless of the departmental affiliation it coordinates their activities, providing business-like production-economic relations which insure fulfillment of assignments the production of agricultural products.

In the event of departmental discord on certain issues the department may take them to the agroindustrial association council for discussion.

The department works out drafts of plans for the sale of agricultural output to the state and presents them to the RAPO council for review on the basis of the state purchase plan delivered by the established procedure for kolkhozes and also for sovkhoses and other agricultural enterprises within the jurisdiction of the agricultural administration of the rayispolkom (with its collaboration). Based on the proposals of kolkhozes, sovkhoses, and other agricultural and processing enterprises, it works out long-range plans for specialization and distribution of agricultural production, interfarm cooperation, and agroindustrial integration.

It examines drafts of long-range plans for specialization and distribution of enterprises, for receiving, storing and processing agricultural and industrial output, and also plans for repair-servicing facilities of enterprises and organizations belonging to the RAPO.

For kolkhozes, sovkhoses, and other agricultural enterprises under the jurisdiction of the agricultural administration of the rayispolkom it performs the following:

It organizes processing and carries out inspection and review of draft five-year plans for economic and social development and for yearly production-financial plans in order to submit them to higher organs;

It participates in developing and submitting for adoption in the RAPO council proposals for distributing the volume of deliveries of tractors, motor vehicles, tractor trailers, grain-harvesting combines, other basic agricultural machines, oil products, and other material-technical resources, and also mixed feeds (on the basis of established limits, taking into account the requests of kolkhozes, sovkhoses, and other agricultural enterprises in coordination with financial sources).

For enterprises and organizations of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika, Sel'khozkhimiya, and water management organizations of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources belonging to the RAPO, the department participates in the review of draft assignments for the volume of various types of services and

work done for the kolkhozes, on production-technical services to the enterprises and organizations belonging to the rayon agroindustrial association, including installation, start-up and adjustment, and mechanization work, assembly of machines, and reconstruction of stock farms and other production facilities.

In the area of intersectorial production-economic relations the department together with the corresponding enterprises and organizations processes and submits to the RAPO council the following proposals:

A proposal for rates (tariffs) on the basis of standard norms for services rendered and work within the association by enterprises and organizations regardless of their department affiliation;

A proposal for estimated prices for livestock, feed, materials, and other resources being supplied by kolkhozes, sovkhoses, and other agricultural enterprises and organizations which belong to the rayon agroindustrial association, from one to another;

A proposal for establishing centralized funds of the agroindustrial association and on the basis of corresponding normative documents--for the directions of their use;

A proposal on performing centralized production-economic functions by individual enterprises and organizations regardless of their departmental affiliation or the creation for these purposes of specialized subdivisions on the basis of interfarm cooperation;

A proposal for redistribution, by the established procedure where necessary, among enterprises and organizations belonging to the association with their consent, of 10-15 percent of the material-technical resources allocated.

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CSO: 1824/538; 1824/545

AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

OVERVIEW OF USSR VEGETABLE PROCUREMENTS

Moscow ZAKUPKI SEL'SKOKHOZYASTVENNYKH PRODUKTOV in Russian No 7, Jul 83 pp 1-3

[Article: "A Priority Task in the Procurements of Vegetables"]

[Text] The decisions handed down during the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Food Program signify a new stage in the party's modern agrarian policies. All branches of the national economy are carrying out a sharp change directed towards solving the problems concerned with further improving agricultural production, developing the agroindustrial complex and ensuring that the country is supplied with food products on a continuous basis.

During the 11th Five-Year Plan, the Food Program calls for improvements in the supply of fruit and vegetable products for the population. The average annual production of vegetable and melon crops during the 11th Five-Year Plan is to be increased to 33-34 million tons and during the 12th Five-Year Plan to 37-39 million tons, fruit and berries -- 11-12 and 14-15 million tons respectively, grapes -- 7.5-8 and 10-11 and potatoes -- 87-89 and 90-92 million tons. The per capita consumption of vegetables and melon crops for the population is to increase from 97 kilograms in 1980 to 126 in 1985 and to 135 kilograms in 1990 and that for fruit -- from 38 to 66 and 70 kilograms respectively.

The carrying out of the program as planned requires tense work on the part of the collectives of kolkhozes, sovkhoses, procurement organizations, state procurement inspectorates and all elements of the agroindustrial complex. For the purpose of solving these tasks and in the interest of material concern on the part of the farms for increasing the production of potatoes, vegetables and fruit, the purchasing prices for these products were increased on 1 January 1983 and bonuses were established for adding on to the purchasing prices for products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable farms. The plans call for considerable investments to be allocated for the construction of storehouses, coolers and hothouse combines.

In recent years, as a result of specialization and concentration in the production of fruit, vegetables, potatoes and the implementation of organizational and economic measures, the production and purchasing of these products have increased somewhat. However, the requirements for them are still not being satisfied fully. In particular, very small quantities of early products are being purchased. For example, only 3 percent of the potatoes are

being purchased prior to 1 July and vegetables -- 8 percent. This is resulting in clearly expressed seasonal fluctuations in supplying these products for the population.

In a number of oblasts, only small quantities of late potatoes are being purchased for food purposes and, as a result, only small amounts are being made available for industrial processing. For example, over the past 5 years the plan for purchasing potatoes for the RSFSR as a whole was not fulfilled on even one occasion and the farms in Kaluga, Smolensk, Tambov, Novosibirsk and Penza Oblasts have not fulfilled their plans for selling potatoes to the state over a period of 17 years.

During 2 years of the current five-year plan, the areas of sheltered ground increased by 1,300 hectares compared to 1980 and presently amount to 13,400 hectares. This has made it possible to increase the purchases of hothouse-hotbed vegetables. At the same time, their proportion with regard to overall purchases still remains low and amounts only to 5 percent, which does not satisfy the requirements of the municipal population. This work is proceeding in a better manner in the Latvian SSR, Lithuanian SSR and Moldavian SSR, in Leningrad, Moscow and Tomsk Oblasts and in the Tatar ASSR. However this does not hold true for the Ukrainian SSR or Belorussian SSR or for Pskov, Kostroma or Kemerovo Oblasts, where only 2-3 kilograms of these vegetables are being produced annually per municipal resident.

Cucumbers occupy more than 70 percent of the hothouse vegetable structure, with a number of farms growing the long-fruit varieties which during the summer (June, July) are not in great demand. The assortment of vegetable products being cultivated and purchases is still limited. The trade is not being supplied with adequate quantities of early and late ripening tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, cauliflower, dill, parsley, lettuce and other vegetables.

In the production and purchasing of fruit, a large proportion is still occupied by early-ripening summer varieties which are not easily transported and which are not in great demand by the population. Berries (gooseberries, black and red currants and strawberries) and stone fruit are being produced in extremely insufficient quantities.

This year the kolkhozes, sovkhoses, agricultural and procurement organs and all elements of the agroindustrial complex must fulfill a great task -- procure more than 54 million tons of potatoes, fruit and vegetables, or 3 million more tons than the actual procurements for last year. Contractual agreements have been concluded for the entire state plan for procuring these crops at kolkhozes and sovkhoses and the assortment and delivery schedules for the products have been agreed upon.

This year the plan for sowing vegetables and planting potatoes has been fulfilled by the farms and the tending of the sowings and the summer work in the orchards and vineyards are being carried out in an organized manner. An important period is at hand -- the mass harvesting work, procurements and deliveries of these products to the consumers of the all-union fund and the laying in of the products for extended storage.

At the present time, early vegetables are being harvested and procured in the southern republics and they are being shipped to Moscow, Leningrad and large industrial centers of the country. The plan for delivering cabbage and tomatoes to the all-union fund is being fulfilled in the Uzbek SSR, cabbage -- in the Azerbaijan and Tajik SSR's, cucumbers -- in the Ukrainian SSR. Shipments of early vegetables from farms in the Turkmen SSR are being carried out in accordance with the established schedules. An increase is taking place in the deliveries of green crops from suburban farms in the central regions, which are commencing to procure their early products from open ground.

With each passing day, the transporting of fruit and vegetable crops and potatoes for sale to the population and for public catering is increasing. The successful carrying out of the harvesting, procurement, processing and storage of fruit, vegetables and potatoes is greatly dependent upon the timely preparation of the logistical base and the continuous operation of the receiving-procurement points of the USSR Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, consumer cooperation and other procurement specialists.

It must not be forgotten that last year, owing to the untimely preparation of the storehouses of the processing enterprises, there were delays in and direct rejections in the acceptance of vegetables by procurement organizations in Rostov, Yaroslavl and Bryansk Oblasts; fruit -- in Vinnitsa, Ternopol and other oblasts. At the gates of canning plants in the Uzbek SSR, motor transport vehicles loaded with tomatoes, apples and peaches stood idle for days and in the Moldavian SSR -- trucks loaded with tomatoes. This has tended to delay the harvesting of the valuable products and has resulted in spoilage. Similar incidents must not take place this year.

The monthly inspection of the status of the logistical base of the procurement organizations has shown that for the most part the warehouse economy, coolers, procurement points and processing enterprises have been prepared for harvesting the 1983 crops. However there have been numerous reports indicating that the access roads to the storehouses are not in proper condition, that the ventilation systems in a number of storehouses are not operating, that water is leaking through the roofs and that repair work on the lines has not been completed at some of the canning plants. Many complaints have been addressed against the construction organizations for failing to utilize the appropriations allocated to them annually for the construction of storehouses and for not fulfilling their tasks for placing them in operation. Last year the plan for placing fruit and vegetable storehouses in operation for the USSR Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry was not fulfilled in the Russian Federation, Belorussian SSR, Azerbaijan SSR and Tajik SSR; for the system of consumer cooperation -- in the Ukrainian SSR and Uzbek SSR.

Owing to a lack of containers for the acceptance, distribution and storage of potatoes, fruit and vegetables in a number of oblasts and rayons, very small quantities of these products are being placed in extended storage and, as a result, irregularities occur with regard to supplying the population with these products during the winter and spring periods.

The union republic ministries of procurements and state procurement inspectorates must systematically monitor the fulfillment of the contractual obligations of the parties involved, suppress all incidents involving delays

or rejections in the acceptance of products and strive to ensure that all of the vegetables and fruit is harvested in a timely manner and prepared for delivery and that the procurement organizations accept them on a continuous basis and place them in storage in a timely manner.

This year, in conformity with the decisions handed down during the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, republic (ASSR), oblast, kray and rayon agroindustrial associations have been formed and placed in operation. In this regard, special importance is being attached to ensuring that the state procurement inspectorates pursue the proper direction in their work, cooperate more closely with the agroindustrial associations and jointly with them to ensure state order in organizing the procurements of potatoes, fruit and vegetables. As pointed out during the April (1983) conference in the CPSU Central Committee, a decisive campaign must be waged aimed at strengthening discipline in the agroindustrial associations as well as throughout the entire national economy.

Many workers attached to the state procurement inspectorates possess a correct understanding of the functions assigned to them and to a considerable degree they are promoting the successful fulfillment of the contractual agreements. Skilfully and in close contact with the agricultural organs, they are performing the work of the state inspectorates in Abovyanskiy, imeni Kamo and Artashatskiy Rayons in the Armenian SSR, in Lenkoranskiy and Astarinskiy Rayons in the Azerbaijan SSR, the Moldavian SSR and in Kursk, Vladimir and a number of other oblasts, the chief state inspectors of which inform the rayon RAPO councils concerning the status of the procurements, deliveries and quality of the products and exert an active influence with regard to the successful fulfillment of the plans for procuring the fruit and vegetables.

In organizing the procurements for this year, importance is attached to ensuring that the kolkhozes, sovkhoses, procurement organizations and state procurement inspectorates take into account the shortcomings and mistakes tolerated in this work in past years. More efficient control must be exercised over the observance of state procurement discipline.

Special emphasis must be placed upon raising the responsibility of kolkhozes and sovkhoses for fulfilling the plans for selling agricultural products to the state. We cannot tolerate the situation which prevailed during the Tenth Five-Year Plan in a number of oblasts in the RSFSR and Ukrainian SSR, wherein 70 percent of the kolkhozes and sovkhoses failed to fulfill their procurement plans for potatoes and one out of every two farms -- for vegetables. Very few changes took place during 1982.

Each year a reduction takes place in the procurements of cucumbers and tomatoes in many oblasts of the Russian Federation. The procurements of sparsely distributed vegetables and greens in the Moldavian and Azerbaijan SSR's are not being carried out in a satisfactory manner. A sharp reduction has taken place in the production and procurements of common onions in a number of oblasts in the Russian Federation. Thus, during 2 years of the current five-year plan, Gorkiy Oblast undersupplied the state in terms of these products by 43,000 tons, Ryazan Oblast -- 29,000 tons and Yaroslavl Oblast -- by more than 10,000 tons.

The failure to observe state procurement discipline has led to a situation wherein common onions and garlic are being imported from other republics into the Ukrainian SSR.

In carrying out their work, the state procurement inspectorates must devote special attention to the quality of the fruit and vegetable products and potatoes being procured and delivered. Last year there were numerous instances of low quality products being delivered to consumers of the all-union fund, products which at times were unsuitable for use. As a result, the state sustained considerable economic damage.

Low quality products have been shipped by procurement organizations in the Turkmen and Uzbek SSR's. The chief reason for this was unsatisfactory preparation of the vegetables and fruit for shipment, failure to observe the rules for the packing and loading of potatoes, fruit and vegetables and also the untimely deliveries of these products to the consumers. All channels for the procurement and delivery of low quality vegetables, fruit and potatoes must be closed -- this represents a priority task of the state procurement inspectorates. Special attention must be given to exercising control over the thorough harvesting of all products grown.

Last year, owing to incomplete and careless digging up and collection of the tubers, the losses at the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in Bryanskiy Rayon in Bryansk Oblast amounted to 39 quintals per hectare, at the Bezlyudovskiy Sovkhoz in Khar'kovskiy Rayon in Kharkov Oblast -- 36 quintals and at the Lobolovo Sovkhoz in Rogachevskiy Rayon in Gomel Oblast -- 30 quintals per hectare. On farms in the Estonian SSR, the potato losses following the initial harvesting work amounted to an average of 29 quintals per hectare and at the Laskvere Sovkhoz in Khiumaaskiy Rayon -- 56 quintals. In Kiev Oblast, at sovkhoses of the Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry for the Ukrainian SSR, 500 hectares of unharvested radishes were plowed under.

The state inspectorates must intensify their control over the fulfillment of plans for laying in potatoes and fruit and vegetable products for extended storage, especially in the areas where they are produced, and over the storage conditions. The organs of the TsSU [Central Statistical Administration] have uncovered serious violations in the accounting and reporting data for products left by the procurement organizations from the 1982 harvest for storage at the kolkhozes and sovkhoses. Such incidents were tolerated by individual farms and procurement organizations in the Kazakh and Latvian SSR's, the Tatar ASSR and in Vladimir, Gorkiy and Leningrad Oblasts.

There have also been incidents of sub-standard products being placed in storage and credited towards fulfillment of the procurement plans, of storage being carried out under poor conditions and of product spoilage taking place at kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Krasnodar Kray and in Rostov and Minsk Oblasts. All of this testifies to the fact that the state procurement inspectorates failed to exercise proper control over the actual laying in of the products or over the trustworthiness of the accounting data.

One method for improving the organization of potato and fruit and vegetable procurements and raising their quality is that of introducing progressive procurement forms into operations: the acceptance of the products directly in

the production areas, deliveries in accordance with the field-to-store method and the transporting and storage of potatoes, fruit and vegetables in containers.

Each year an increase is taking place in the volumes of fruit, vegetables and potatoes being procured directly in the production areas and also in the shipping of these products by transport vehicles of the procurement organizations. Thus, in 1982 9.3 million tons of these products were accepted using this method, or six times more than in 1976. The acceptance of fruit, vegetables and potatoes directly in the production areas is being employed most extensively in the Kazakh, Moldavian, Armenian and Tajik SSR's and in Sverdlovsk, Leningrad, Volgograd and a number of other oblasts in the RSFSR. Using the field-to-store method, fine work is being performed by farms and procurement organizations in Kiev and Omsk Oblasts and in Stavropol Kray.

However, these progressive forms for procurements are still being introduced into operational practice very slowly, with formalism being tolerated -- with the products being accepted only according to quality (as is being done in Moscow Oblast) or, conversely, only according to quantity. Acceptance in the production areas has not been organized in the Turkmen or Azerbaijan SSR's and it is unfolding very slowly in the Belorussian, Uzbek, Georgian, Latvian and Estonian SSR's. In the period remaining prior to the commencement of the period of mass harvesting and procurements of this year's crops, the state procurement inspectorates, jointly with the procurement and agricultural organizations, should carry out checks to ensure the readiness of the acceptance and delivery points of the farms and that the farms are adequately supplied with skilled workers and with the required GOST's /state standards/ and other documentation.

The procurement organizations and farms must carry out a great volume of work in connection with delivering the potatoes, fruit and vegetables to the all-union fund. In accordance with the existing statute, such deliveries must be carried out first of all, regardless of fulfillment of the plan for procurements. Special attention must be given to ensuring that the delivery plan is fulfilled within the established period and in terms of both assortment and high quality products.

The state procurement inspectorates must exercise control over this work on a daily basis. The recipients of the products must also exercise control over the fulfillment of the delivery plan; they must maintain operational contacts with the suppliers and monitor the delivery routes for the vegetables and fruit and ensure their timely acceptance and unloading.

Last year the plan for deliveries to the union fund was fulfilled only in terms of vegetables and grapes. Despite the availability of adequate resources, the following delivery plans were not fulfilled: for potatoes -- Kazakh SSR, Chuvash and Mordovian ASSR's and Kaluga Oblast, for onions -- Rostov Oblast, for vegetables -- Armenian SSR, grapes -- Azerbaijan SSR. The procurement organizations of the Ukrainian SSR are systematically failing to carry out their shipments of melon crops and fruit to the union fund. This year the state procurement inspectorates and procurement enterprises and organizations must undertake all of the measures required for fulfilling the plan for deliveries to the union fund.

The private plots of citizens and collective horticulture and gardening constitute a great reserve for fruit, vegetable and potato procurements. The state inspectorates must exercise more active control over the organization of procurements of surplus agricultural products from the population.

The successful fulfillment of the procurement and delivery plans for potatoes, fruit and vegetables will depend to a considerable degree upon ensuring that the farms are provided with packaging materials and that railroad freight cars, ships, refrigerated trucks and aircraft are made available on a timely basis for transporting these products to the consumption areas. The railroad, river, motor vehicle and aviation transport workers must make thorough preparations for transporting the new crops and the procurement organizations -- must lay in a supply of packaging materials for both the planned and above-plan output.

This current year of 1983, as pointed out during the April meeting in the CPSU Central Committee, is a decisive one for the entire five-year plan as a whole. The agricultural workers and procurement specialists must be guided by this fact as they proceed to achieve unconditional fulfillment of the plans for procuring the potatoes, fruit and vegetables.

Only harmonious work on the part of the suppliers, procurement specialists and transport workers will make it possible to solve successfully the tasks established in the Food Program for 1983 with regard to improving the supply of potatoes, vegetables and fruit for our Soviet people.

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